Outsourcing of equipment by BCCL

3104. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. (BCCL) has resumed outsourcing of equipment for digging coal beneath the abandoned fields in the Jharia coal belt;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how far this would increase the production of coal of this unit per annum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) As reported by Coal India Ltd. in Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL), only some small isolated patches are being extracted by hired Heavy Earth Moving Machinery (HEMM) for limited periods to prevent illegal mining activities and to restrict spread of hazardous fires in coal seams. Such hired HEMM is presently being operated at nine patches in six areas of BCCL. Four more patches are being taken up.

(c) The anticipated production from the patches operated by hired HEMM would be approximately 1.45 million tonnes during the period 2005-06.

Outsourcing of manpower in Kudla open cast mining project in Orissa

3105. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs decided on a route which would involve complete outsourcing of manpower and equipment in Kudla open cast mining project in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) Kudla Opencast Project with a capacity of 10.00 million tonne per year, for capital investment of Rs. 302.96 crores has been approved by Govt. of India in January 2005. The project has been approved with a provision of removing Coal and Over Burden (OB) contractually. However, drilling and blasting operation for both Coal and OB, crushing and sizing of Coal Handling Plant (CHP) will be done departmentally.